

Article - Family Law

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§5–1010.

- (a) A complaint need not be in any particular form.
- (b) The complaint shall be written in simple, nontechnical language.
- (c) The complaint shall state the facts on which the complaint is based.
- (d)
 - (1) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, a complaint filed under this subtitle shall be supported by the oath of the mother or pregnant woman, whether or not she is a party to the paternity proceeding.
 - (2) The complaint may be filed without the oath if the mother or pregnant woman:
 - (i) is dead;
 - (ii) refuses to file a complaint;
 - (iii) refuses to disclose the identity of the father of the child;
 - (iv) is mentally or physically incapable of making an oath; or
 - (v) refuses to make the oath.
 - (3) If the complaint is filed without an oath under paragraph (2) of this subsection:
 - (i) the complainant shall verify the fact of the pregnancy or birth; and
 - (ii) if the mother or pregnant woman is living, she shall be made a defendant.
- (e)
 - (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, the clerk of court may not receive a complaint starting paternity proceedings unless the consent of the attorney for the Administration is attached to the complaint.
 - (2) The consent of the attorney for the Administration is not required if, after considering testimony or information given by affidavit, or both, the court:

- (i) finds that the complaint is meritorious; and
- (ii) rules that the consent is not required.

(3) Except by an order of court for good cause shown, a proceeding under this subtitle may not be dismissed voluntarily without the consent of the attorney for the Administration.

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